

**MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

November, 1993

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Section I: Introduction

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended, and its implementing regulations (15 CFR Part 922) require that a management plan be prepared for each proposed Sanctuary. Once the Sanctuary is designated, the plan will be implemented. The management plan focuses on Sanctuary goals and objectives, management responsibilities and guidelines for the resource protection, research, education and administration programs.

The plan establishes an administrative framework which addresses the need for cooperation and coordination to ensure effective management. The Sanctuaries and Reserves Division (SRD), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is responsible for management of the site. Variable funding for staff and program development over the next several years may affect specific aspects of Sanctuary management described in this plan. Modifications to the scope and scale of the programs may have to be made because of such unforeseeable changes in the level of funding. The goals and objectives of the plan will, however, remain unchanged.

Sanctuary goals and objectives provide the framework for developing the management strategies. The goals and objectives direct Sanctuary activities towards the dual purposes of resource protection and compatible public use and are consistent with the intent of the National program. No actions taken by NOAA in administering the sanctuary shall infringe upon Native American treaty rights unless the action is absolutely necessary to protect the resources from extinction and no other protective measures are available.

The management strategies planned for the proposed Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) are directed to the goals and objectives outlined below. The management plan is designed to address the first five years following sanctuary designation, after which time it will be revised. Although the plan offers guidelines for the sanctuary manager, there are four important tasks identified as having high priority immediately following designation which, when completed, will set in motion progress towards fulfilling the objectives of the plan. These four tasks are:

- (1) Establish liaisons with the appropriate agencies to ensure the Sanctuary mandate can be carried out through a cooperative management strategy. Sanctuary staff will meet with other agencies and institutions operating in the area to familiarize them with the Sanctuary mandate and staff, and determine appropriate working relationships and mutual agendas. These meetings will include, among others, the Washington Departments of Ecology, Natural Resources,

Fisheries, Agriculture, and Wildlife, the U.S. Coast Guard, Canadian Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, the four coastal Tribes, local businesses, towns, counties, timber and fishing representatives, and research and education institutions.

(2) Create an Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Committee (SAC) which will be proactive and reactive in its service to the sanctuary manager. It is intended that the SAC will: a) create subcommittees to assist in developing programs in research, education, resource protection and administration for the Sanctuary; and b) advise the manager on policy issues. Thus the SAC will play a key role in advising on what the management priorities should be, and coordinating Sanctuary actions with those of other agencies. The SAC will consist of appointed representatives of government agencies, research and education groups, and commercial and environmental interests.

(3) Coordinate with the U.S. Coast Guard to Conduct an emergency response drill to assess the state of preparedness to respond to an emergency within, or in close proximity to the sanctuary, and generate a plan to address inadequacies.

(4) In conjunction with the IMO proposal submitted by the U.S. Coast Guard for an Area To Be Avoided, the sanctuary manager should work with the Canadian and U.S. Coast Guards and the SAC to generate a vessel traffic management plan for the sanctuary.

Besides the four priority tasks which should be revisited with every management plan revision, the management plan calls for on-going resource management, research, and education initiatives. The manager will review development or management proposals that will impact upon the marine resources, provide policy advice to other agencies working in the proposed Sanctuary area, and make presentations to appropriate levels of government.

The sanctuary will support management-related research and monitoring through funding, staffing, and other means that may be available and appropriate. It is the highest priority of the research agenda to complete a site profile within the first five years following designation. Completion of the site profile will be critical to refining the sanctuary contingency plan.

The education program calls for coordination with, and support of, existing interpretive and education programs, such as those of the National Park Service and the Seattle Aquarium. The general public and interested organizations on the Olympic Peninsula and in Washington State, will play important roles in attaining resource protection goals in the Sanctuary. Interpretive programs fostering public understanding and, hence,

support for management objectives, are inherent in the plan's concept. High priority communication tools will include publications, exhibits, school curriculum, and special events that convey the significance of the Sanctuary's resources to both the in-state and out-of-state public. The management plan will highlight the linkages between the health of the Sanctuary resources and upland uses and habitats.

Information exchange, sharing of facilities and staff, and the coordination of policies and procedures for resource protection will be features of all programs, including research and education. The sanctuary management plan is designed to guide management of the proposed Sanctuary for the first five years after implementation. During this period, management initiatives will generally fall into four basic programs: (1) Resource Protection; (2) Research; (3) Education; and (4) Administration. The remainder of this section describes goals, guidelines and initiatives for each program.

II. Resource Protection

A. Introduction

The Sanctuary resource and quality protection program includes: (1) a statement of Sanctuary resource and quality protection goals; (2) Sanctuary regulations, including procedures for working with existing regulatory authorities in cases of overlapping jurisdiction; (3) contingency and emergency response plans; (4) encouragement of compatible use in the Sanctuary; and (5) identification of surveillance and enforcement plans.

B. Goals

The highest priority management goal for the Sanctuary is the protection of the marine environment, resources and qualities of the Sanctuary. Sanctuary goals are therefore designed to:

1. Reduce threats to Sanctuary resource and qualities;
2. Ensure that the water quality of the Sanctuary is maintained at a level consonant with Sanctuary designation;
3. Promote public awareness of, and voluntary compliance with, Sanctuary regulations and objectives, through education and interpretive programs stressing resource sensitivity and wise use;
4. Encourage participation by interested agencies, tribes, and organizations in the development of procedures to address specific management concerns (e.g., monitoring and emergency-response programs);

5. Ensure that research results and scientific data are made available to management agencies to improve resource protection strategies;

6. coordinate activities of management and regulatory agencies to resolve conflicting or duplicative regulations, policies and enforcement procedures.

C Sanctuary Regulations

Existing regulations and proposed Sanctuary regulations are presented in Part III of this document. The proposed Designation Document (Appendix __) includes the consolidated Sanctuary regulations and activities subject to regulation now or in the future.

To ensure protection of Sanctuary resources and qualities and conservation of its valuable habitat, NOAA proposes seven regulations that govern: (1) oil, gas and mineral activities; (2) discharges and deposits from within Sanctuary boundaries; (3) discharges and deposits from outside Sanctuary boundaries; (4) uses that may injure historical resources; (5) alteration of or construction on the seabed; (6) uses that may injure marine mammals, sea turtles and seabirds; and (7) overflights. Two additional regulations are proposed to aid facilitate enforcement of Sanctuary regulations: 1) a prohibition on possession of Sanctuary resources not exempted by pre-existing treaties; and 2) a prohibition on interference with enforcement operations. Vessel traffic may be regulated in the future if consultation between SRD and the U.S. Coast Guard reveal a significant threat to Sanctuary resources from current vessel traffic conditions. SRD and the U.S. Coast Guard are working toward the establishment of an Area to Be Avoided (ATBA) off the northern Olympic Peninsula, extending 25 nautical miles from the shoreline, for all vessels transporting hazardous materials. Implementation of this ATBA is pending IMO approval. For details on the proposed ATBA, see Part III of the FEIS.

Kelp harvesting has also been included within the scope of possible future regulation. While very little kelp harvesting is occurring at the present time, inclusion of kelp harvesting within the scope of future regulation is necessary to preclude overharvesting of kelp in the future. Overharvesting of kelp could threaten the integrity of the kelp habitat so important to the entire coastal ecosystem.

D. Contingency Plans

The resources of the Sanctuary are susceptible to natural and human-related changes. Many of these changes are gradual and can be detected only through long-term monitoring of environmental and biological indicators. However, certain sudden and catastrophic changes in conditions (due to an accidental oil

spill or vessel grounding, for example) could seriously damage resources and present severe health and safety hazards.

1. Existing Capabilities

In 1991, the State Legislature passed Washington ESHB 1027, pursuant to the recommendations of the BC/States Task Force, which identified the response parties for marine spill prevention and response at the state level. The 1991 and subsequent legislation has established a network of agencies for marine spill prevention and response that includes the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE), newly created Office of Marine Safety (OMS), Maritime Commission, Regional Marine Safety Committees, Board of Pilotage Commissioners, University of Washington Sea Grant, Marine Oversight Board, and existing State agencies including Washington Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Wildlife, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Revenue.

The Coast Guard (the federal on-scene coordinator in coastal and tidal waters) has ultimate authority to coordinate and direct all federal, state and private cleanup operations when discharges into the marine environment pose a substantial threat to the public health or welfare.

WDOE is the state agency with primary responsibility for oil and hazardous substance spill response and clean-up on land and water. However, the agency is more familiar with land-based spills. The OMS has responsibility for vessel response plans, barge cable standards, bunkering and lightering operations, and review of federal vessel inspection programs. The OMS has established three regional marine safety committees including one for the North Puget Sound/Strait of Juan de Fuca and one for the Outer Coast. The committees will prepare regional plans governing vessel traffic, including consideration of tug escort requirements, speed limits, navigation aids, vessel conflicts, environmentally sensitive areas, and the Coast Guard VTS.

The OMS will review the plans and implement those recommendations over which the state has authority. By the end of 1993, the OMS plans to implement an extensive Tanker Prevention Plan and Commercial Vessel Screening Requirements. The plan will require tankers and barges transiting Washington waters to file a spill prevention plan verifying that they pose no risk to State waters. The prevention plan will address issues related to vessel quality, procedures and crew training standards. Commercial Vessel Screening Plans, will require all cargo vessels over 300 gross tons and commercial passenger vessels to give OMS advanced notification of their vessel characteristics and cargo prior to arrival in state waters. The OMS is mandated to establish an emergency response system for the Strait of Juan de Fuca based on recommendations from the regional marine safety

committees. The OMS is currently reviewing the recommendations submitted by the committees.

The Maritime Commission, established by the Legislature in 1990, is charged with: 1) developing first response oil spill contingency plans for covered vessels; 2) providing emergency oil spill response services for up to 24 hours following an oil spill incident; and 3) providing a 24-hour communication network for spill response notifications. The latter two of these functions have been contracted to private companies-the former to Foss Environmental and the latter to the Marine Exchange of Puget Sound. The Commission develops vessel contingency plans and maintains a database of vessel accidents.

Numerous State agencies provide spill response assistance and planning information related to resources that may be impacted by a spill. Education and outreach efforts are provided by the University of Washington Sea Grant and Washington Parks and Recreation Commission. The Department of Revenue is charged with studying tax incentives for spill risk reduction through coordination with WDOE and the Department of Trade and Economic Development. The Marine Oversight Board is an independent citizen review of Federal, State and industry actions. The Board is comprised of five gubernatorial appointees, who, acting in an advisory role report to the Governor, and make recommendations to agencies and the State legislature.

A detailed description concerning equipment and procedures for emergency response can be found in Part II of the FEIS.

2. Sanctuary Action

One of the first management actions of the Sanctuary will be to conduct an emergency response exercise for an oil spill in the Sanctuary boundary. The intent of this exercise will be not only to test the adequacy of existing plans and the availability and effectiveness of the equipment allocated but also to provide an opportunity for existing emergency response agencies and personnel to work with the Sanctuary and to define roles and responsibilities.

The Sanctuary program is preparing a National Plan with additional site specific plans, such as for the Olympic Coast, that will address needs for Sanctuary staff training, appropriate equipment necessary to respond to a large-scale emergency requiring long-term response and clean-up capabilities, and NOAA policies regarding use of dispersants.

To provide further protection to the Sanctuary resources and qualities, the Sanctuary staff will assess the state of preparedness of the relevant parts of the contingency plans as they relate to the Sanctuary. This action will entail exchanging

information with government and industry response teams and seeking their support in assessing detection and clean-up capabilities that can be used to protect Sanctuary resources. In addition, and consistent with the National Marine Sanctuary Program Regulations (15 CFR Part 22), NOAA will provide the necessary resources and impetus to develop and implement a site-specific contingency and emergency-response plan designed to protect the Olympic Peninsula's offshore resources. The plan shall contain alert procedures and actions to be taken in the event of an emergency such as a shipwreck or an oil spill. The plan will specify the role of the Sanctuary and the action items with which the Sanctuary has lead responsibility versus providing assistance when requested by another lead agency.

An SRD-level contingency and emergency-response plan has been prepared for the Channel Islands and Key Largo National Marine Sanctuaries. A similar plan for the proposed Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary will be created that will:

- * Describe emergency-response procedures and coordination requirements for SRD and Sanctuary staff;
- * Define SRD policy regarding use of dispersants;
- * Provide a geographic information system depicting resources at risk which will build upon the GIS developed by the State Department of Natural Resources;
- * Outline procedures for emergency research; and
- * Provide damage assessment guidelines.

In conjunction with this plan, agreements may be formulated to improve spill detection programs and augment containment capabilities (i.e., with additional equipment, staff, and deployment plans).

E. Compatible Use of the Sanctuary

An important aspect of the resource program is to encourage the private and public uses of the Sanctuary, not prohibited pursuant to other authorities, in ways that are compatible with the primary objective of resource protection. Thus the Sanctuary will:

1. Develop educational materials and programs aimed at enhancing public awareness of the Sanctuary's resources and characteristics and their need for protection.
2. Provide relevant information about Sanctuary regulations and use policies;

3. Collaborate with public and private organizations in promoting compatible use of the Sanctuary;

4. Monitor and assess the levels of use to identify and control potential degradation of resources and minimize potential user conflicts; and

5. Consult with other agencies on policies and proposals for the management of activities which may affect protection of Sanctuary resources and qualities;

Monitoring and information exchange programs are discussed under research (Section III). The development of materials is discussed under education (Section IV).

F. Surveillance and Enforcement

1. Sanctuary Action and Coordination with Existing Agencies

A primary feature of the resource protection program is the surveillance of sanctuary waters and enforcement of applicable regulations. Although a detailed enforcement plan has not been developed, NOAA currently envisions a State-Federal-Tribal cooperative enforcement system involving the State of Washington, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, and coastal American Indian Tribes. Because the proposed sanctuary includes tribal, state, and federal waters, close coordination between tribal, state, and federal authorities is required.

Cooperative agreements between state and federal authorities exist at other sanctuary sites. For example, under a cooperative agreement with SRD, the California Department of Fish and Game (and other federal agencies including NPS, NMFS, and USFWS) enforces living marine resource regulations within the Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary and state enforcement officers are deputized to enforce sanctuary regulations. As discussed below, the Washington Department of Fisheries (WDF), through an agreement with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), enforces fishing related laws and regulations in state and federal waters off the coast of Washington State. Opportunities exist to coordinate enforcement efforts between SRD and WDF. The current regime for enforcing relevant laws and regulations within the boundaries of the proposed sanctuary is summarized below.

The USCG has broad responsibility for enforcing all federal laws in navigable waters under U.S. jurisdiction. Where these laws regulate fishing harvests, the USCG works closely with the NMFS and WDF.

Sanctuary designation would have the effect of broadening USCG enforcement responsibilities to include the enforcement of sanctuary regulations. Neither NOAA nor the USCG has the fiscal

resources to conduct systematic surveillance and enforcement operations to ensure compliance with sanctuary regulations. However, both the USCG and the state conduct operations in the area. The USCG would provide limited surveillance in conjunction with multi-mission, surface, or aerial operations.

WDF is the state agency with primary enforcement capabilities in the area of the proposed sanctuary. With the exception of traffic laws, WDF fisheries patrol officers have full police power permitting them to enforce all criminal laws of the state of Washington. There are currently nine Fisheries Patrol Officers who could be available for sanctuary enforcement (a sergeant at Montesano; two officers at Westport; two officers at Ocean Shores; one officer at Forks; one sergeant and one officer at Port Angeles; and one officer at Clallam Bay). WDF officers are cross-deputized with NMFS, and enforce Washington fishing regulations in state territorial waters (0-3 miles offshore), and federal fishing regulations in the Exclusive Economic Zone (3-200 miles offshore). WDF conducts no enforcement patrols on the sixty miles of shoreline in Olympic National Park between Queets and Neah Bay.

Five permanent NPS law enforcement rangers with full federal commissions are stationed along the coastal strip of the Olympic National Park year around: 2 at Kalaloch, 2 at Mora, and 1 at Ozette. During the summer, 5 more seasonal law enforcement rangers are stationed on the coast. In addition, 18 full time, commissioned rangers are stationed in other parts of the Park with 13 more commissioned seasonal rangers on duty in summer. These numbers fluctuate somewhat from year to year. Enforcement of federal regulations within the portion of the sanctuary that overlaps the Park can be performed by these rangers. Authority for law enforcement in other portions of the sanctuary would have to be specifically granted to the Park by NOAA.

USFWS staff make occasional visits to the Refuges along the coast for biological surveys. Enforcement authority is limited to the islands. Incidental observation can be made of the surrounding waters.

Each of the four coastal tribes is an independent, self-governing, sovereign entity, with administrative and management authority over their own lands. In addition, as federally recognized co-managers of the fishery resources tribal enforcement authority extends out into the adjacent waters of the north coast region. In aggregate, the four coastal tribes and North West Indian Fisheries Commission employ more natural resource management personnel to work on environmental protection, habitat enhancement, and fishery management issues in the north coast area than do the corresponding state or federal agencies.

NOAA plans to rely on such observers from other agencies and cooperating organizations, including excursion and service boat operators, to provide the surveillance information needed for the enforcement program. Suspected violations will be reported to the sanctuary manager, who will investigate the reports and take appropriate action. The enforcement program is expected to be sufficiently strong to deter widespread violation of sanctuary regulations.

In the event that analyses of use patterns after sanctuary designation indicate that additional surveillance is required, NOAA will provide for more intensive enforcement to protect sanctuary resources. The effectiveness of sanctuary enforcement operations will be evaluated two years after sanctuary designation, and annually thereafter.

2. Public Education and Information

An emphasis will also be placed on public education efforts to preclude the need for a large-scale enforcement program. Interpretation and education programs will therefore be important for gaining voluntary compliance with sanctuary regulations. Because the most effective enforcement is prevention, the sanctuary interpretive program will make every effort to inform people about wise sanctuary use and enjoyment. It is essential that all users of the sanctuary be provided with easily understood materials which explain the regulations, their rationale, and the shared government responsibility for their enforcement.

Some first step actions directed toward this effort include: (1) developing and distributing brochures explaining sanctuary regulations and their intent; (2) posting sanctuary regulations at appropriate locations (e.g., marinas, sailing clubs, public docks, waterfront recreation sites and restaurants); and (3) establishing contact with industry, and recreational and commercial groups (e.g., fishing and shipping industry) to present and explain the regulations. Discussions with various groups will help determine appropriate educational materials for promoting compatible use of the sanctuary.

3. Planning and Modifying Enforcement Program

Information obtained from the research program and from surveillance-enforcement activities on Sanctuary visitor use patterns, frequently occurring violations, and potentially sensitive resources, will be reviewed in periodic meetings between the Sanctuary Manager, the Sanctuary Advisory Committee and enforcement agency personnel to determine the adequacy of surveillance levels and methods.

Section III: Research

A. Introduction

Effective management of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary requires the development of a coordinated and focused research program. Research conducted within marine sanctuaries is designed to improve knowledge of the sanctuary's environment and resources and provide data and information that is most useful to the sanctuary manager and decision-makers. The research conducted within sanctuaries contributes to the general body of scientific knowledge, and the management-specific focus of the research provides useful information for application in other marine and coastal areas. Sanctuary researchers, managers and education directors should coordinate their efforts to ensure a strong link between management/education needs and research projects. The research agenda should also be coordinated with the research agendas of the other marine sanctuary's on the west coast to maximize the benefits of research results.

Research conducted within the sanctuary will focus specifically on those management issues that relate to the protection of significant sanctuary resources. The highest priority for research is generation of a "site profile" which will form the foundation for the contingency plan, regulatory regime, and education and research programs on natural resource abundance, characteristics, and processes for the area. Past resource data will be utilized as well as ongoing monitoring and research results. The monitoring program should be both species specific as well as examine questions involving communities and the entire local ecosystem. Management directed research will address practical, use-oriented or "cause-and effect" studies. Long-term monitoring and the resultant data base will provide the foundation for interpreting or predicting natural or human-induced events in the sanctuary and adjacent areas. General directions and priorities for additional research are provided in this section as a guide for identifying and selecting future appropriate research projects.

The sanctuary will work cooperatively with other institutions whenever possible in conducting research. Federal, tribal, state, and local agencies, and universities in Washington State, have important capabilities that could aid in meeting sanctuary objectives. In particular, the Washington legislature established a new Olympic Natural Resources Center, to be located on the western side of the Olympic Peninsula, to conduct research and education in forestry and ocean management. This new Center, a unit of the University of Washington, would be an ideal partner to work with sanctuary staff on ocean issues and educational programs.

B. Goals

The purpose of Sanctuary research activities is to improve understanding of the resources and characteristics of the marine environment off the Olympic Peninsula to resolve specific

management problems, and to coordinate and facilitate information flow between the various research institutions, agencies and organizations. A major emphasis of the research program will be to encourage studies that investigate the natural processes at the land-sea interface. Research results will be used in education programs for visitors and others interested in the Sanctuary, as well as for resource protection. The strategies to be employed in the research program are to:

- * Establish a framework and procedures for administering research to ensure that research projects are responsive to management concerns and that results contribute to improved management of the Sanctuary;
- * Incorporate research results into the interpretive/education program in a format useful for the general public;
- * Focus and coordinate data collection efforts on the physical, chemical, geological and biological oceanography of the Sanctuary;
- * Encourage research that examines biodiversity within the habitats of the Sanctuary;
- * Encourage studies that integrate nearshore and open ocean research findings for a more complete understanding of processes affecting both zones;
- * Initiate a monitoring program to assess environmental changes as they occur due to natural and human processes;
- * Identify the range of effects on the environment that would result from predicted changes in human activity or natural phenomena;
- * Assure that research activities do not harm or diminish Sanctuary resources;
- * Encourage information exchange among all the organizations and agencies undertaking management-related research in the Sanctuary to promote more informed management;
- * Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the research program and its integration with resource protection and education objectives.

C. Framework for Research

Research projects will be directed to three basic management questions.

- * Baseline studies to determine the features and processes of the natural environment; the abundance, distribution, and interaction of the living resources; the distribution and status of historical resources and the pattern of human activity in the Sanctuary from prehistoric times to the future;
- * Monitoring to document changes in environmental quality, in ecology, and in human activity; and
- * Predictive studies to assess the causes and effects of environmental and ecological changes.

Each of these categories is described in more detail below.

(a) Baseline Studies

Baseline studies will be designed to obtain a better understanding of the physical oceanography and ecology of the Sanctuary. They generally refer to studies of abundance, distribution, and movement of species, and selected chemical, physical, and geological parameters. In the area of the proposed Olympic Coast sanctuary, the basic characteristics of many important species populations and habitats are not known. However, there is an indication that there has been a loss of habitat and species in recent years. Inventories of selected species, particularly threatened or vulnerable species within these populations, represent an important direction for research. Some baseline studies will focus on the inventory and description of sanctuary habitats. Over the long term, there may be a need for a detailed inventory of the intertidal and subtidal habitats of the sanctuary that build on previously conducted surveys, and personal observations.

Since there are barges and vessels carrying hazardous substances through and near the Sanctuary, the Sanctuary manager will need sound information on water circulation. This information would be used to improve understanding of the dispersion pattern of possible oil spills and land-source and ocean-source discharges in the waters within or adjacent to the Sanctuary, and as part of the Sanctuary's contingency planning efforts.

Basic physical oceanographic studies should focus on local circulation patterns offshore and in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, upwelling processes, and the interchange of water masses such as the Columbia River Plume and more saline open ocean water masses. To accomplish this goal of understanding regional circulation the Sanctuary could assist with the development and dissemination of information from existing monitoring stations such as NOAA tide gauges, current meters, thermistor chains and satellites (i.e., the NOAA polar orbiting satellites with Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer instruments that can image sea surface

temperature). Process oriented studies can use resident, indicator species to identify local water mass movement and elucidate key productivity areas or areas of high diversity. Results can then be incorporated into an understanding of food web relationships and predator-prey foraging dynamics.

Comprehensive knowledge of the distribution of organisms and their dependence on environmental factors is needed for interpretation as well as for resource protection. At representative depths and locations, the environment should be characterized by the collection of additional baseline data on water temperature and salinity, light penetration, upwelling circulation and nutrient-load. This information should be correlated with data on the abundance and distribution, by depth zone and location of species populations living within and transiting the Sanctuary. Data of this type have been collected at particular points along the shoreline by the numerous research institutions in Washington State, but due to the remoteness of the area and limited access points, there are many gaps in our knowledge of the marine ecology off the Olympic Peninsula, particularly land-sea interactions.

The interaction of physical oceanography with biological studies will assist in developing an understanding of the ecology of the region and the general health and productivity of the Sanctuary. The research and education programs in general will emphasize a multi-disciplinary approach to basic and applied scientific issues. The geographic location of the proposed Sanctuary provides an excellent opportunity to integrate research on the effects that human uses in the watershed and in the marine environment have on marine resources. This data would be invaluable in estimating the effects, if any, of present and future land-use practices on the marine environment.

Additionally, a historical context study, including a general literature search building on existing work, will be conducted to identify probable historical sites (including cultural, archeological and paleontological sites) within the Sanctuary. This research will be followed by a field reconnaissance-type remote sensing survey and archeological assessment to locate and evaluate the extent to which historical resources are based in the Sanctuary. These baseline historical resource studies will provide the fundamental information necessary for developing a historical resource management strategy and education/interpretation program for the Sanctuary.

The recently developed Maritime History Museum will provide a new maritime museum in Seattle. Coordination with facilities adjacent to the Sanctuary and in larger population centers will enhance public awareness of Sanctuary efforts to protect and research important historical resources.

2. Monitoring

Effective management requires an understanding of long-term changes to the status of the resources and human uses effecting those resources. Monitoring activities provide for the planned systematic collection of data on selected parameters to detect trends in ecosystem populations, communities, habitats, and processes. A well designed monitoring program can help detect natural cycles and trends, as well as unusual changes, and then relate them to one or more sources of probable disturbance. A monitoring program may help to distinguish between trends related to natural and human-induced activities. Over the long term, a monitoring program should indicate the health of the sanctuary ecosystem and its important resources.

Marine resource monitoring programs can be costly and complex. For these reasons, the selection of parameters to monitor is an important scientific and management question. SRD will continue to seek advice from and coordinate with other agencies and scientists who conduct marine monitoring, and provide technical and other support where possible. Additional programs may also be initiated for important species or habitats of special concern not covered by existing programs. The research subcommittee of the SAC will be instrumental in directing the monitoring program.

Overall, the monitoring program will assist in our understanding of the general health of the Olympic Coast and surrounding waters. The program could help discover sources of pollutants and assist in the establishment of cause and effect relationships as part of long-term toxicological evaluations. Monitoring could also elucidate any problems or changing patterns that had not been previously identified. Ultimately, the monitoring program will address the application of the findings to basic science as well as applied management purposes.

Sanctuary staff will also monitor vessel traffic in coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard to assess the needs of additional preventative strategies.

3. Analytical/Predictive Studies

In addition to baseline research and monitoring, the Sanctuary research program will continue studies, as needed, to analyze the causes and consequences of ecosystem changes and predict their effects on new and more intense human activity in the area. Unlike the monitoring program these predictive studies are envisioned to be more short-term and directly targeted to an immediate management issue. Studies could be made to determine the effects on marine mammals of possible increases in boating activity if heightened interest in whale watching and fishing excursions results from Sanctuary establishment. A knowledge of these effects would enable management to provide information to Sanctuary users to avoid disturbing these animals unnecessarily.

Other studies of whales, pinnipeds and seabirds in the Sanctuary could be initiated to determine their range, their migration patterns, and their dependance on the food resources of the Sanctuary. One such study, for example, might be an investigation to determine (1) whether the decrease in Stellar sea lions can be attributed to a decline in prey availability and compare the results to a similar study on the relatively stable Stellar sea lion population on Ano Nuevo; and (2) the importance of the fish stocks in sustaining the Stellar sea lion population and (3) the interaction of fishing on pinniped, mammal, and seabird populations and vice-versa.

D. Selection and Management of Research Projects

Projects considered for funding by the SRD should be directed to the resolution of sanctuary management issues and concerns. The sanctuary manager, Sanctuary Advisory Committee, and SRD will follow procedures developed by SRD to ensure that each sanctuary's research program is consistent with the national program policies and directions. These procedures include preparing an annual Sanctuary Research Plan (SRP), and monitoring the progress of research in the sanctuary.

1. Preparing an Annual Operating Plan (AOP)

Each year the sanctuary manager will prepare a Sanctuary Research Plan (SRP) with support by the SAC. The AOP is a brief description of the goals for each fiscal year and a justification of how these goals fit into the guidelines of the approved management plan. SRD will then incorporate the SRP into a national plan that includes annual plans for each sanctuary. Steps involved in the annual planning process include:

- * Identifying management concerns for the sanctuary with supporting evidence or rationales.

- * The sanctuary manager, in cooperation with the SAC and SRD, establishes research priorities based on the identification of management concerns. The most important factors to be considered in establishing annual research priorities will be:

- (1) Immediate or evolving management issues that may be resolved through directed research projects;

- (2) The prospects of research already in progress; and
 - (3) The availability of funds, equipment, and instruments for research support.

- * Research workshops are held on an occasional basis to facilitate the identification of research problems. After

the management issues and research priorities are developed, a draft SRP is prepared.

- * An SRP is prepared that includes documentation of how each project meets the national selection criteria. The final SRP is then incorporated by the research coordinator at program headquarters into a National Sanctuary Research Plan. The highest ranking research projects are selected from the national plan and a procurement schedule is prepared.

- * A research announcement and request for proposals (RFP) is prepared. The announcement discusses management concerns and summarizes past and on-going research. Its purpose is to solicit proposals from the scientific community that satisfy the criteria specified in the SRP.

Occasionally, research proposals may include activities that are prohibited by sanctuary regulations (e.g., taking of marine mammals). In such cases NOAA may review the proposal and issue a permit allowing the activity to proceed. The permit review process for research is outlined in Appendix ____). NOAA may also determine that all or part of the research should be conducted outside of sanctuary boundaries. Research focusing on protected or endangered species may require additional research permits from other agencies.

2. Monitoring Progress

The sanctuary manager will monitor the performance of research projects and keep records of ongoing research, equipment being used on site, frequency of researchers' visits, and project progress. In order to ensure conformance to schedules outlined under the terms of the research contract, the researchers must prepare progress reports and final reports for review by SRD and the sanctuary manager. Scientists and resource managers may review final reports before approval by SRD. Additionally, SRD will publish outstanding project reports in its Technical Report Series.

3. Information Exchange

Direct SRD funding for research is limited. To augment directly funded research, SRD will encourage other funding sources to support research that complements sanctuary management goals. In the process of soliciting research projects from other agencies and private institutions, SRD will make available current sanctuary resource data obtained from past and ongoing projects.

Section IV. Education

A. Introduction

The interpretive program for the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary will focus on improving public awareness of the sanctuary program and providing information about the Olympic Coast sanctuary resources, ecological linkages with terrestrial habitats, and regulations. The program will target, among others, local governments, businesses, citizen groups, the tribes, the timber industry, fishermen, tourists and educational institutions. The program is designed to promote understanding of the natural and human resource values of the Olympic Coast sanctuary, to enhance the stewardship responsibilities of the users in the coastal watersheds. Where possible, these programs will be coordinated with already existing programs and facilities, such as the local school systems in the watersheds bordering the sanctuary.

B. Goals

The education program will be directed at improving public awareness and understanding of the significance of the Sanctuary and the need to protect its resources and attributes. The management objectives designed to meet this goal are to:

- * Provide the public with information on the Sanctuary and its goals and objectives, with an emphasis on the need to use these resources wisely to ensure their long-term viability;
- * Broaden support for the Sanctuary and Sanctuary management by offering programs suited to visitors with a range of diverse interests;
- * Provide for public involvement by encouraging feedback on the effectiveness of education programs and collaborate with other organizations to provide interpretive services, including extension and outreach programs and other volunteer projects complementary to the Sanctuary program;
- * Establish extension and outreach services through collaborative efforts with school and volunteer programs;
- * Incorporate research results into the interpretive/education program in a format useful for the general public;
- * Use research opportunities as an educational tool by establishing research assistantship and citizens monitoring programs; and
- * Create public awareness of the entire Nation-wide Sanctuary Program, its purposes and intent and the role of the Olympic Coast NMS as part of a regional and national system.

C. Educational Opportunities

Opportunities for interpreting the Olympic Coast NMS fall into two broad categories; 1) education for local residents and visitors, and potential users of the Sanctuary, including schools, fishermen, hikers, campers, nature viewers , etc., as well as visitors at local information centers and at the Sanctuary headquarters; and 2) interested groups not visiting the site but who desire to learn more about the Sanctuary's resources and unique characteristics. Below is a description of the educational programs that the Sanctuary will develop to maximize these opportunities.

1. Site Visitor Programs

The Olympic Coast includes intertidal areas that can be readily observed from land. At Kalaloch, Highway 101 parallels the shoreline for approximately 10 miles allowing access to the coastline and enabling disabled or less active visitors to view the sanctuary area from scenic overlooks. Access by road also exists at La Push, Mora Campground, a point south of Neah Bay, and at Lake Ozette where a three mile trail leads to the coast. The unique wilderness setting and the diversity of habitats along the Olympic shoreline present excellent opportunities for school field trips, field seminars, local community programs (e.g. beach clean ups, whale and bird watching), and university level research projects. Visitors and users of the offshore area include kayakers, fishermen and viewers on whale-watching boats. Brochures and interpretive materials will be available to provide information about sanctuary regulations, wildlife, and the sanctuary environment.

The proximity of the proposed sanctuary to the shoreline enables visitors to have a field experience either by walking along the shoreline or by going out on the water. The intertidal areas of the proposed sanctuary are also part of the Olympic National Park and are managed by the National Park Service (NPS). NPS conducts beach walks, sponsors nature seminars, and maintains interpretive signs at beach overlooks. SRD plans to establish a cooperative program with the Park Service to reach those visitors who go to the coastal area of the marine sanctuary. The beach overlooks are also excellent locations to establish signs and displays describing the proposed sanctuary. These interpretive signs will provide visitors, residents, and users of the sanctuary with a brief description of the sanctuary's resources and uses. On-site educational materials will consist largely of written and visual materials describing the sanctuary and explaining its regulations. This information will be available to the wide variety of recreational users and tourists that visit the area.

2. Information Center Programs

Many people who would not normally walk the beaches or go for an open-water cruise will be able to visit sanctuary

headquarters and other visitor and information centers in the state. The educational exhibits and brochures available at the centers enable visitors to learn about the Olympic Coast area, and gain a greater appreciation of the marine environment. There are a number of other educational/interpretive centers around the Peninsula and in western Washington cities that may be willing to host sanctuary exhibits and coordinate educational programs. These include:

Olympic National Park: The Olympic National Park recently obtained Congressional approval to build a Visitor Center at Kalaloch, but construction is not expected to begin for several years. The Olympic Park Superintendent has offered the National Marine Sanctuary Program exhibit space in the new facility. Since Kalaloch is located on the coastline, visitors can combine an on-site beach walk with an educational experience at the visitors center. The Olympic Park operates a number of ranger/informational centers on the Olympic Peninsula. An agreement may be reached by which SRD can distribute brochures and other interpretive information at these locations. The Park also hosts "Olympic Field Seminars" sponsored by the Olympic Park Institute. Arrangements can be made to hold a seminar on the sanctuary environment and resources. The Olympic National Park also organizes programs for schools and community groups. Designation of a marine sanctuary provides the opportunity to organize cooperative programs with the Park, schools, local community groups, and coastal tribes.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Headquarters, Olympia: USFWS distributes a brochure on the Refuges, has created visual panels on the coast in conjunction with the NPS, and is interested in developing additional cooperative projects with NOAA and NPS.

Arthur D. Feiro Marine Laboratory, Port Angeles: Owned by the City of Port Angeles and located on the City Pier, the lab is operated by Peninsula College both as a center for marine interpretation (largely for tourists) and as a center for teaching and research.

Olympic Natural Resources Center (ONRC), University of Washington: The 1989 Washington legislature established the Center as a unit of the University of Washington with a broad mandate for research and education regarding forestry and ocean resources. A development plan is now being written and will be submitted to the legislature in 1991. The ONRC will be based at U.W. in Seattle but the law requires that a facility be built on the western side of the Olympic Peninsula; planning for that facility is now underway.

Sea Grant Extension Offices, Montesano: There is a Sea Grant Extension Office at Montesano, Washington. Informational brochures and other materials about the sanctuary may be distributed from this office.

Seattle Aquarium, Seattle: It is anticipated that several cooperative projects involving exhibits and field excursions will be developed with the Education and Exhibits division of the Aquarium.

New Maritime Center, Seattle: A maritime center combining features of an interpretive center, science and technology museum, and cultural institution is being proposed for Seattle's central waterfront on Elliott Bay. It is estimated that the Center will not be completed for at least seven years.

Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority, Aberdeen: Written materials concerning sanctuary resources could be made available at the Seaport, and cooperative efforts to develop exhibits may be appropriate.

Makah Museum, Neah Bay: The Makah Museum, home to 500-year-old Ozette artifacts, is managed by the Makah Cultural and Research Center which has become a focal point for Makah tribal culture since it was founded in 1979. It contains the world's single-largest collection of Northwest coast artifacts dating back to before the times of the non-Indian explorers.

Aside from Port Angeles, the major population centers on the Peninsula (Aberdeen, Forks) do not operate marine oriented information centers. These communities, which are suffering from a declining economy, may benefit from sanctuary designation. Establishment of a sanctuary may increase tourist traffic to the region and thereby benefit the local economy through direct expenditures within the tourist related industries.

3. Outreach Programs

The OCNMS educational/interpretation program will try to reach persons who are unable to visit the Olympic Coast area, as well as those living in the watershed. Outreach programs may benefit groups with a specific interest in the coastal region and groups that are not aware of the importance of the marine environment. The outreach agenda will identify and contact specific groups and school systems and target the needs for marine education and outreach programs. Efforts will then focus on providing educational materials, curriculum and programs about the sanctuary and the marine environment. If interest is strong enough, a slide presentation, mobile exhibit, documentaries and other media may be developed for use with schools and private groups.

Section V. Administration

A. Administrative Framework

This section of the management plan describes the administrative roles of the agencies that will be involved in Sanctuary management, proposes strategies to coordinate their activities, and provides for periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the management plan. Administration oversees all other functions of sanctuary management including resource protection, research, and education, and establishes the roles of the relevant players in implementing specific programs. The administrative framework ensures that all management activities are coordinated.

The Sanctuary and Reserves Division (SRD) is responsible for the overall management of the proposed Sanctuary. The SRD will coordinate on-site activities through cooperative agreements with the State of Washington, NPS, USFWS, USCG, EPA, and NMFS.

1. Sanctuaries and Reserves Division

The National Marine Sanctuary Program is managed by SRD. SRD prepares a site-specific management plan for each sanctuary to ensure that on-site activities in resource protection, research, and education/interpretation are coordinated and consistent with sanctuary goals and objectives. SRD is responsible for implementing this plan through interagency agreements and funding of on-site operations.

SRD, in collaboration with the sanctuary manager, develops a general budget projecting expenditures for program development, operations, and staffing. Funding priorities will be reviewed and adjusted annually to reflect evolving conditions in SRD's budget, the sanctuary, and the priorities and requirements of the National Marine Sanctuary Program. SRD also establishes policies and procedures in response to specific issues in each sanctuary. Detailed SRD responsibilities are listed under the resource protection, research, and education sections which follow.

The Sanctuary manager serves as the primary spokesperson for the OCNMS, and reports directly to, and represents, the SRD. The manager's headquarters will preferably be located on the west side of the Olympic Peninsula, in close proximity to the sanctuary site. The final decision regarding the location of headquarters and satellite offices will be made after consultation with the SAC.

2. Sanctuary Advisory Committee

A Sanctuary Advisory Committee (SAC) will be established to enable agencies, interested groups, and individuals to actively contribute to the management of the OCNMS. The SAC will consist

of representatives of those groups affected by sanctuary designation, and include federal, state, local, and tribal government authorities, users of the area such as vessel operators and fishermen, and local community, and tribal members. These groups will be consulted to ensure that their ideas and concerns are made available to and considered by the sanctuary manager.

The SAC will serve in both a proactive and reactive manner. It will be instrumental in producing annual operating plans by identifying education/outreach, research, and resource protection priorities. The SAC will keep the manager informed about issues of concern, offer suggestions on solutions to conflicts, and assist the manager in achieving the goals of the sanctuary program. The SAC will also be solicited to comment on ideas and approaches to issues that the sanctuary manager raises.

The structure, composition, and role of the SAC will be determined by SRD in conjunction with representatives of the State of Washington. In addition, SRD will appoint members to the committee and define the roles between the manager, the SAC, and SRD headquarters. A broad based constituency will be sought to ensure that a range of views and expertise are made available to the sanctuary manager. The experience and expertise of the SAC will be available to the manager on an ad hoc basis and during regularly scheduled meetings. In order to function efficiently in an advisory capacity it may be beneficial to subdivide the SAC into subcommittees that correspond to the resource protection, research, education and general administration issues. Detailed SAC responsibilities are listed under the resource protection, research, education and general administration sections which follow.

3. Federal Agencies

A. United States Coast Guard (USCG)

The USCG is responsible for enforcing Federal laws in waters under U.S. jurisdiction. This mission includes the enforcement of sanctuary regulations promulgated for the sanctuary. The USCG also manages operations for the control or removal of oil and hazardous substances resulting from offshore spills. In addition to enforcing fishing and vessel discharge regulations, the USCG is also responsible for regulating vessel traffic, maintaining boater safety, and coordinating search and rescue operations.

B. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

The USFWS maintains enforcement jurisdiction over the Flattery Rocks, Quillayute Needles, and Copalis National Wildlife Refuges. Because the boundary of these three island refuges is from mean high water landward, there is no overlapping jurisdiction between the USFWS and SRD. The refuges do, however,

lie within the waters of the proposed sanctuary. It is anticipated that an interagency agreement will be developed to establish a method for joint management of the resources.

C. National Park Service (NPS)

The NPS is responsible for managing the Olympic National Park. Sixty miles of coastline and the offshore rocks and islands (including the intertidal zones) are included within the boundary of the Olympic National Park. The landward boundary of the proposed marine sanctuary extends to mean high water, cutting across the mouths of streams and rivers, except along Indian reservations where the boundary extends to the lower low water mark. NPS and SRD share jurisdiction over the intertidal zone in those areas where the landward boundary of the proposed Sanctuary extends to mean high water, and around the offshore rocks and islands. Existing National Park Service standards and policies cannot be diminished or diluted by any "shared" jurisdiction with SRD. For example, the large majority of the intertidal area of the park is Congressionally designated Wilderness and must be managed to that standard. SRD and NPS will develop an interagency cooperative agreement to ensure the most efficient use of program funding and manpower in achieving the goals of the sanctuary and park.

D. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The EPA has regulatory responsibilities with regard to sewage outfalls, ocean dumping, and non-point source pollution. While EPA has delegated permitting authority to the State government, the tribes receive their permits directly from EPA.

E. Corps of Engineers (COE)

The COE grant permits that are based on EPA guidelines for the discharge of dredged materials into State waters and the waters beyond. The Corps also issues permits for construction, excavation or fill in any navigable waters of the United States.

F. Department of the Navy

The Department of the Navy conducts military training and surveillance activities in the proposed Sanctuary area.

4. International, Tribal, State, and local agencies

A large portion of Washington State waters is included within the boundary of the proposed sanctuary. The Washington State Departments of Ecology, Natural Resources, Fisheries, and Wildlife have management responsibilities within state waters off the Olympic Peninsula. Ecology also administers the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program. The state has an efficient infrastructure for coastal resource management and enforcement.

It is NOAA's intent to work closely with the state to ensure full federal-state cooperation, and to coordinate the sanctuary program with the existing local, state and regional management framework. This cooperation will involve the establishment of Cooperative Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding and deputization of officials for enforcement purposes.

NOAA will work closely with the Makah, Quileute, Hoh and Quinault tribes and the other tribes with treaty rights within the sanctuary, Clallam and Jefferson Counties, the City of Forks, and Canadian authorities such as the Canadian Coast Guard and Canadian Park Service to coordinate research, education, monitoring and resource protection initiatives.

To facilitate the administrative procedures regarding certification/approval of leases, licenses, permits, approvals, rights or other authorizations (as described above, Part II, Section III, B.2. Designation Document and Regulations), NOAA will work closely with the owners or holders of, or applicants for, leases, licenses, permits, approvals, rights or agencies.

B. Resource Protection: Roles and Responsibilities

1. Sanctuaries and Reserves Division

- (a) Approves priorities for funding for resource protection;
- (b) Monitors the effectiveness of interagency agreements for surveillance and enforcement and negotiates changes where required;
- (c) Develops contingency and emergency-response plans and, based on these plans, negotiates applicable interagency agreements;
- (d) Monitors the effectiveness of existing sanctuary regulations, and manages the process to implement changes in regulations where necessary; and
- (e) Coordinates efforts to protect and manage sanctuary resources with other federal agencies, tribal governments, and other public and private organizations.

2. Sanctuary Manager

- (a) Recommends to SRD priorities for allocating funds annually for resource protection;

- (b) Assists in the coordination of surveillance and enforcement activities by providing liaison with the USCG and other agencies;
- (c) Reports regularly to SRD on surveillance and enforcement activities, violations, and emergencies;
- (d) Provides information for use in training sanctuary enforcement officials;
- (e) Monitors and evaluates the adequacy of emergency-response plans and procedures in the sanctuary;
- (f) Maintains a record of emergency events (e.g., oil spills) in and around the sanctuary;
- (g) Evaluates overall progress toward the resource protection objectives of the sanctuary program, and prepares semi-annual and bi-monthly progress reports highlighting activities for SRD; and
- (h) Establishes the Sanctuary Advisory Committee.

3. U.S. Coast Guard

- (a) Holds broad responsibility for enforcing all federal laws throughout the sanctuary waters;
- (b) Ensures enforcement of sanctuary regulations; and
- (c) Provides on-scene coordination and Regional Response Center facilities under the National Contingency Plan for the removal of oil and hazardous substances in the event of a spill that threatens the sanctuary.

4. State of Washington

- (a) Owns and manages aquatic lands, manages living resources, and enforces state laws and regulations within state waters of the sanctuary;
- (b) State enforcement personnel may be deputized to enforce specific federal laws throughout the sanctuary (e.g., the Endangered Species Act);
- (c) Evaluates progress towards management objectives for resource protection, and adjusts annual priorities accordingly;
- (d) Monitors the effectiveness of state regulations within the sanctuary and considers recommended changes to state regulations through the State Legislature and Governor's Office;

(e) Monitoring and surveillance of fisheries resources;

(f) Provides on-scene coordination of state clean-up response in the event of an accidental spill of oil or hazardous materials, which threaten the state's fish and wildlife resources.

(g) Regulates recreational and commercial fishing activities in state waters.

C. Research: Roles and Responsibilities

1. Sanctuaries and Reserves Division

(a) Prepares annual Sanctuary Research Plans (SRP's) for each sanctuary;

(b) Prepares an annual National Research Plan (NRP) and budget, based on the SRP's of individual sanctuaries and in accordance with priorities determined at the national level;

(c) Sets dates for procurement based on the NRP;

(d) Administers interagency agreements and contracts for research;

(e) Reviews all interim and final research reports submitted by the sanctuary manager; and

(f) Reviews permits for research activities, considering the recommendations of the sanctuary manager, to ensure consistency with sanctuary regulations and provide additional technical review where necessary.

2. Sanctuary Manager

(a) Recommends broad areas of research to resolve management issues;

(b) Develops the Sanctuary Research Plan;

(c) Reviews research documents and progress reports submitted by contractors;

(d) Prepares assessments of research needs and priorities based on management requirements and research continuity;

(e) Prepares recommendations for SRP's;

- (f) Implements the SRP's;
 - (g) Coordinates research and monitoring activities with other federal, state, tribal, and local agencies in the sanctuary in consultation with SRD, the Sanctuary Advisory Committee and other interested parties; and
 - (h) Coordinates an on-site process for reviewing and evaluating research proposals and permit requests, considering the views of SRD, the Sanctuary Advisory Committee, concerned individuals and interest groups.
3. Sanctuary Advisory Committee
- (a) Provides advice to the sanctuary manager on review of research proposals, interim, and final reports;
 - (b) Provides advice to the sanctuary manager on approval of proposals for research in the sanctuary; and
 - (c) Provides advice to the research coordinator and the sanctuary manager on priority research needs.
- D. Education/Interpretation: Roles and Responsibilities
1. Sanctuaries and Reserves Division
- (a) Reviews and approves the list of annual priorities for education and the annual education budget prepared by the sanctuary manager;
 - (b) Reviews and approves design proposals for all educational facilities; and
 - (c) Evaluates progress toward accomplishing objectives for education and adjusts long-term priorities accordingly.
2. Sanctuary Manager
- (a) Recommends annually to SRD a list of priorities and an annual budget for education;
 - (b) Prepares and circulates as required Request for Proposals (RFP's) for educational projects;
 - (c) Supervises the design and production of educational materials and facilities for the sanctuary;
 - (d) Provides training for staff assigned to the sanctuary;
 - (e) Encourages local and regional organizations to participate in sanctuary education;
 - (f) Disseminates information about the National Marine Sanctuary Program and the OCNMS; and

(g) Oversees the development of any education facilities constructed for the sanctuary, reviews site analyses and design specifications, awards construction and maintenance contracts.

3. Sanctuary Advisory Committee

(a) Provides advice to the sanctuary manager and education coordinator on raising public awareness of the sanctuary and advises on the development of a local constituency by means of brochures, presentations, structured events articles for publication, and other activities consistent with the management plan.

E. General Administration: Roles and Responsibilities

1. Sanctuaries and Reserves Division

(a) Ensures that the sanctuary is operated in a manner consistent with established national program policies and with applicable national and international laws and provides guidance to the sanctuary manager;

(b) Identifies, analyzes, and resolves sanctuary management problems and issues;

(c) Formulates comprehensive, long-term management plans for the sanctuary and revises the management plan as necessary;

(d) Directs and assists the sanctuary manager in the implementation of the management plan;

(e) Coordinates sanctuary management with other federal and state agencies, tribal governments, and private organizations;

(f) Evaluates the effectiveness of sanctuary management and regulatory measures;

(g) Prepares a program budget for the sanctuary; and

(h) Provides funding for overall sanctuary management and administration.

2. Sanctuary Manager

(a) Coordinates on-site efforts of all parties involved in sanctuary activities;

(b) Reviews the management plan periodically and recommends changes to SRD as needed;

(c) Assists SRD in preparing the annual budget for the sanctuary;

(d) Oversees day-to-day operation of the sanctuary, including administrative functions such as bookkeeping, purchasing and keeping records of visitor activities;

(e) Supervises sanctuary staff and other personnel, including enforcement and interpretive employees assigned to the sanctuary; and

(f) Represents the sanctuary viewpoint on local issues and at public forums.

3. State of Washington

(a) Assists in the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive, long-term management plan for the sanctuary; and

(b) Assists in the periodic review of the management plan.

4. Sanctuary Advisory Committee

(a) Provides advice on the specific plans for sanctuary developments;

(b) Provides advice on all proposals for activities within the sanctuary;

(c) Provides advice to the appropriate federal, state, tribal, or local government on proposed actions, plans and projects in areas adjacent to, or affecting the sanctuary;

(d) Enhances communication and cooperation among all interests involved in the sanctuary;

(e) Advises on rules and conditions for all forms of public recreation; and

(f) Advises on an overall plan for the use, development and maintenance of sanctuary lands and buildings.

F. Staffing Levels

Due to limited funding, the sanctuary will begin with a NOAA manager, and an operations coordinator. The sanctuary staff will work closely with the USCG, NPS, FWS, and other state, tribal, and federal agencies in providing enforcement and surveillance in the area of the sanctuary. The SAC will be established during the first year and planning will begin to identify research,

education, resource management and administrative priorities for the first five years following designation. The priorities for further staffing will be determined as a result of the planning initiative.

G. Headquarters and Visitor Center Facilities

Sanctuary headquarters and administrative offices will be established at a suitable location on the Olympic Peninsula. NOAA has undertaken a preliminary assessment of alternatives for a main office and satellite offices. However, the final decisions on the siting of administrative offices will be made during the sanctuary planning initiative when the priorities for the first five years after designation for education, research, and resource management are clarified. This will also allow time for the mission and programs of the Olympic Center and the soon to be established Willapa Science Center to be identified. Siting considerations will be contingent upon available funding.

NOAA explored options for siting of offices in Port Angeles, Forks, Neah Bay and La Push. Following is an analysis of locations identifying some of the advantages and disadvantages of each alternative.

1. Port Angeles

The advantages of locating an office in Port Angeles are that: 1) it is the center of communications and transportation on the Olympic Peninsula where regional offices of the Coast Guard, National Park Service and other federal and state offices are located; and 2) should the Northwest Straits National Marine Sanctuary become designated, this location would be convenient in coordinating the operations of both sanctuaries.

The main disadvantage of siting the administrative office in Port Angeles is that it is removed from the population centers on the Olympic Peninsula and it may promote the perception and/or reality that the program is out of touch with the needs and interests of the population living adjacent to the Sanctuary.

2. Neah Bay

Neah Bay offers many opportunities with respect to facilities, research, and education. It is located adjacent to both the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Olympic Peninsula, and as such, is centrally located adjacent to the entire sanctuary. Facilities exist to support a research vessel and tug. The Coast Guard station has a 600 foot dock with lift and launch capability, and is planning to upgrade the dock and its facilities which is expected to be completed by 1995-96. This may present an opportunity for cooperative funding by NOAA to provide fixed, permanent space for SRD vessels. The station would be a natural place to store a vessel ashore because there

is a heavy lift crane which can lift vessels of up to twenty tons from the water. There is also an enclosed maintenance shed which may be available to SRD as well. Both security and maintenance would be much simpler if SRD were able to use the Coast Guard facility.

From the standpoint of research, much research has been occurring at Tatoosh Island by the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Lab. The presence of the Sanctuary in Neah Bay can support and augment this research.

From the standpoint of education/outreach, and research on cultural and historic resources, Neah Bay offers the Makah Archeological Museum and draws a large number of tourists which can be targeted by the Sanctuary program. The Makah Tribe is making long-range plans to improve the harbor at Neah Bay, add on to the museum, construct a marina and convention center and build an adjacent shopping center. In addition, because it is located on a tribal reservation, the education program can become more directly involved with the education needs of the coastal tribes.

3. La Push

There is a small port at La Push which supports the fishing fleet of the Quileute Tribe. However, there is a bar that must be negotiated at the entrance and in heavy weather is dangerous and, at times, impassible. Therefore from the perspective of facilities such as access to the sanctuary by vessels, this is an undesirable location. However because of its coastal location, it is a site where the Sanctuary would ensure that there is adequate contingency planning equipment, and bird and mammal rescue facilities. There is a Coast Guard station at La Push.

There is also a small village that supports a tribal school and recreational opportunities in the summer. Siting an office in this location will enable the sanctuary program to become integrated in the educational program of the tribe and research linkages between upland uses and the health of the coastal environment.

4. Forks

Forks is the center of the timber industry and the commercial center for the Olympic Peninsula. It is located approximately 12 miles from the coast. It will be the location of the Olympic Center which will offer an opportunity to coordinate research focusing on the linkages between upland uses and the coastal ecosystem. The location offers access to tourists and upland users of the watershed and a central location for the entire population on the Olympic Peninsula. A main office of the National Forest Service and an office of the state Department of Natural Resources are also located in the Forks area.